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I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450 ON

Milwallar 7-0 SIGNATURE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

Kurt F. Fischer et al

Serial No.

10/662,243

Filing Date

September 15, 2003

For

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STITCH TETHERS

Art Unit

3616

Examiner

F.M. Fleming

Attorney Docket

TRW(AP)6503

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

- 1. Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98, and in compliance with CFR §1.56, the Office's attention is directed to the patents, pending applications, publications and other information listed on the attached PTO-1449. A copy of each listed document is enclosed. Applicant(s) make no admission that the enclosed documents are prior art to the present invention.
- 2. Regarding each listed document that is not in the English language, an English-language translation accompanies this Statement as indicated on the attached PTO-1449 or a corresponding U.S. Patent is enclosed, or an English abstract, or a concise explanation of the relevance of the document is set forth on an attached sheet.

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•	(one must be checked):								
	(a)		Within three months of the filing date or date of entry into the National Stage.						
	(b)		Before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.						
	(c)		but laction	befor on or	period set forth in 37 CFR \$1.97(b) e the mailing date of either a final a notice of allowance or an action rwise closes prosecution in the on.				
			1)		A certification is given below,				
			2)	\boxtimes	Enclosed is a check covering the fee (\$180.00) set forth in \$1.17(p) for consideration of this Statement, or				
			3)		Charge the fee set forth in 37 CFR \$1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 20-0090.				
	(d)		final befor	l act: re pay ired (mailing date of either a ion or a notice of allowance, but ment of the issue fee. The certification and fee is below.				
			1)		Enclosed is a check covering the fee set forth in 37 CFR \$1.17(p) \$180, or				
-	-		2)		Charge the fee set forth in. 37 CFR \$1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 20-0090.				
•	Certi	ficat	ion	on (if applicable):					
	(a)		each State commu in a more	item ement unicat count than	signed hereby certifies that of information contained in this was first cited in any ion from a foreign patent office terpart foreign application not three months prior to the filing tatement.				

- The undersigned hereby certifies that no item of information contained in this Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the undersigned's knowledge after making reasonable inquiry no item of information contained in the Statement, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR \$1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.
- The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, fees underpaid, or credit any overpayment with regard to this Statement to Deposit Account No. 20-0090.
- 6. Concise Explanation (if needed):
 - (1) Below is a Concise Statement of Relevance of enclosed non-English language document(s).

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

6,701,849

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

OTHER DOCUMENTS

Respectfully submitted,

DANIEL J, WHITMAN Reg. No.43,987

Customer No. 26, 294

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	INFORMATION STATEMENT BY			APPLICA Kurt F. I	NT: Fischer et al	al			
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EXAMINER: Initial citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the patent owner.

DATE CONSIDERED